

April 2018

# Buffalo United Methodist

1000 30<sup>th</sup> Street NE  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa



## Make It Secure

by Bishop Laurie Haller

**M***ake it as secure as you can.* I often spend time during the latter part of Lent reading and comparing the accounts of Holy Week in all four gospels. Every time I discover something new. This year I am focusing on Holy Saturday. It's such a strange day, an in-between day when nothing much seems to be happening. It's a time of silence--except in the gospel of Matthew.

Matthew tells us that when Jesus died, Roman guards and a centurion kept watch at the cross to confirm his death. On Friday evening of this Day of Preparation for the Sabbath, a wealthy man from Arimathea named Joseph went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Matthew calls Joseph a "disciple," who, other than the twelve, is the only person in the New Testament named as a "disciple." This is significant because tradition identified Joseph as a member of the Sanhedrin, which was responsible for condemning Jesus to death. Joseph of Arimathea was an outlier and evidently a recent convert.

Pilate ordered that Jesus' body be given to Joseph, who wrapped the body in a cloth and laid it in his own tomb. He rolled a stone in front of the entrance and then went away. All the while, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting opposite the tomb watching.

The next day, Saturday, the chief priests and Pharisees came to Pilate and said, "We remember when that imposter said while he was alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first."

"Pilate said to them, 'You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.' So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone". . . The Greek word "make secure" (asphalizo) is found three times in Matthew 27 and only one other time in the New Testament. In Acts 16:24, the jailer "fastened" Paul and Silas' feet in the stocks when they were in prison.

At the time Matthew was written, some opponents of the Jesus movement claimed that Jesus did not die, the women went to the wrong tomb, or disciples stole his body. Thus, the presence of guards, who do not appear in the other gospels. Furthermore, these guards are later bribed by the chief priests and elders to lie and say that disciples came and stole Jesus' body.

*Make the tomb as secure as you can.* Even the tomb couldn't hold Jesus back! Which only goes to show that nothing is secure. As humans, it is only natural that we want to be as secure as possible. That's why we build bigger barns, save more for retirement, create "stronger" passwords, or install alarm systems in our homes. We want to have enough in case there are major medical expenses, or so we can leave something for our grandchildren. We're only being responsible, right?

But our human reality is that nothing is guaranteed in this life. Home, health, happiness? Nothing. Nothing is secure. Living in a rural state where farming is a huge part of Iowa's economy, I am very aware of the economic uncertainty that many farm families can experience because of circumstances out of their control.

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[For the complete posting, go to Bishop Haller's blog at <http://www.lauriehaller.org/>]

## Annual Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale

**Saturday, April 7**

The Breakfast hours are 7 to 11:00 am. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee, juice, and milk. A Free Will offering will be accepted to benefit the Africa University Scholarship Endowment program and to help David Seufferlein participate in a working mission trip to Houston, Texas. There will also be a bake sale, and we would appreciate any baked goods you can donate for the sale.

## Golden Age Potluck

On Thursday, April 12, at 11:30 am join us for fellowship and good food. Because we are all winners, please bring small wrapped gifts and we will play Bingo after the meal. Place settings and beverages will be provided.

## United Methodist Women

Come join us on Thursday, April 19, at 9:30 am for a brief business meeting and a lesson. Everyone is welcome. Barb Crawford will provide the program and the treats. We look forward to the lesson and great fellowship.

## Special Offering in April

Golden Cross Sunday offerings are used for health and welfare ministries in the Iowa Annual Conference.

## Wanted, People with Smiling Faces

If you can come to church a few minutes early on Sunday morning, you can share in the ministry of our church by greeting people as they arrive for Sunday service. All that is required is a smiling face, a friendly attitude, and a willingness to pass out the bulletins. If you would be interested in helping, please talk to Barb Crawford.



## Annual Spring Fling

**Saturday, April 14**

Reservations are due by Sunday, April 1 for this year's Spring Fling ("The Christmas Story") on at 11:30 am on Saturday, April 14 at Buffalo UMC. The cost is \$6. Every-one is welcome and should bring a friend (or friends). The delicious food is always scrumptious, ensuring everyone will experience ambrosial bliss.

## Administrative Board Minutes

**March 21**

The following topics were discussed and actions were taken:

- **Pancake Breakfast.** Barb indicated things are in good shape for the Pancake Breakfast.
- **Exercise Class.** Plans for starting an exercise class have been suspended; however, Margie is willing to offer an Alexander Technique class.
- **Gardening and Butterflies.** Bob said he will be planting native flowers, grasses, and shrubs to benefit wildlife, including different species of butterflies. Possible plants include purple cone flowers, black-eyed Susan, milkweed, perennial sunflowers, coreopsis, false indigo, goldenrod, asters, big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, switch grass, and prairie dropseed. Cost for plants and mulch will be approximately \$350.
- **Window Blinds.** Board members discussed replacing the blinds in the meeting room.
- **Little Free Library.** Bob is meeting with a carpenter from Iowa City to discuss constructing of a "Little Free Library" to be placed near the street in front of the Buffalo church.
- **New contacts.** Chris reported we have new contact persons for both HACAP and Garfield.
- **Smoking.** A recent situation concerning smoking on the church property prompted discussion of BUMC's smoking policy. It was agreed smoking should not occur on church property and "no smoking signs" should be posted at all entrances. Sheryl volunteered to look for appropriate signs.
- **Maundy Thursday.** Board members decided that the service at Buffalo should begin at 7:00 pm.

## Alexander Technique

### *The thinking person's solution to pain and stress*

In April Margie Marrs will be offering at Buffalo an Alexander Technique class, meeting every Monday afternoon at 3:00 pm. The first session will be on April 2. The Alexander Technique is an educational process that can help you understand how the human body is naturally designed to function.

Through the exploration of simple movements, you can become aware of and reestablish flexibility and ease in your general coordination. It is important to keep in mind that the Alexander Technique is not something to do (like in an exercise class) nor is it something that is done to you (like receiving a massage). Instead the Alexander Technique will help you develop skills applicable both to daily tasks (such as breathing, sitting, standing, walking, opening a door, working at a computer) and activities requiring more complex coordination (such as singing, playing a musical instrument, participating in sports).

Scientific research has shown the Alexander Technique can help with balance, breathing, chronic pain, and backache. For example, results of published in the *British Medical Journal* in 2008 concluded that individual lessons in the Technique had long-term benefits for patients with chronic back pain.

Beginning in the 1980s, Margie started using the Alexander Technique in her teaching at Coe. In 2011 she became a certified teacher (one of only three in Iowa) after graduating from the Alexander Technique Center in Urbana, Illinois.

If your schedule allows, please consider joining Margie on Monday, April 2 for the first session, which will last no longer than one hour. And encourage friends and neighbors to participate. No preparation is necessary, though Margie does suggest wearing reasonably loose, flexible clothing.

## Bison Blog

Once or twice a week, texts dealing with religious and/or spiritual issues are posted to the Bison Blog on Buffalo's website. One purpose of the blog is to invite readers to consider a variety of issues from diverse perspectives. Here are excerpts from three 2018 postings. Blog address: <http://buffalounitedmethodist.weebly.com/bison-blog>

Pope Francis said the common rendering of one line in the Lord's prayer — "lead us not into temptation" — was "not a good translation" from ancient texts. "Do not let us fall into temptation," he suggested, might be better because God does not lead people into temptation; Satan does.

"A father doesn't do that," the pope said. "He helps you get up right away. What induces into temptation is Satan."

In essence, the pope said, the prayer, from the Book of Matthew, is asking God, "When Satan leads us into temptation, You please, give me a hand."

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"As the years passed, fewer and fewer doctrinal particularities served as deal breakers for him [Rev. Billy Graham]. This posture pivoted on his willingness to work with almost anyone who would work with him as long as they did not ask him to change his message. He labored tirelessly, and often in the face of venomous criticism, to build bridges with fundamentalists, other evangelicals, Pentecostals, mainline Protestants, Catholics, and partisans of other religions. He refused to speculate about the fate of non-Christians, insisting that was God's call, not his."

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"Today after dinner a hawk, circling the novitiate and the church steeple, designed a free flight unutterably more pure than skating or music. How he flung himself down from on high and swooped up to touch lightly on the pinnacle of the steeple and sat there, then fell off to cut lovely curves all around the cedars, then off like an arrow to the south." ~Thomas Merton, a Trappist Monk

## Eulogy for Rose Studt Schloss

**Rose Studt Scloss** died on March 13, 2018, at home with her loving family after several years of failing health. She was born on Aug. 5, 1936 to Daniel K. and Viola Christensen. After graduating from Roosevelt High School in 1954, she married John Studt in July of 1954. To this marriage were born three sons, Terry, Dennis, and Kevin. During the kids' younger years, the family delighted in camping at the Wild Wood Acres campground on the Maquoketa River, in what amounted to a group camp with many family and friends. First in a pop-up trailer and later in a big camper, the children fondly remember cooking over the campfire, tubing on the river, and checking for rattlers. Rose participated in the Memorial Day Volleyball Tournament with great enthusiasm. Family members also remember Saturday night outings at the Bluff Lake Catfish Farm (with the best fish ever), the beer can fence their dad built around the campsite, and the evening campfires.

Although Rose and John eventually divorced, they raised a loving and happy family, and the children have continued in that tradition. Terry and his wife, Janice, have 2 children, Seth and Katie. Dennis and Mary were blessed with 3 children, Chiara, Amber, and Chase. Kevin and Ellen also have 3 children, Megan, Molly, and Abbie. Rose, known as "Grandma Rosie," particularly treasured her 10 great-grandchildren, bringing her great joy and amusement during their visits. She is survived by her sister, Millie Hilleshiem, and her brother, Earl Christensen. She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother Leland; her husband Richard; and two nephews, Lonnie and Danny. Family was everything to Rose: they were her most valuable possession.

Rose worked at Rockwell Collins for 33 years, and it was here that she met her beloved second husband, Richard Schloss. After moving into a home in Hiawatha, they took great delight in perfecting their garden. Rose had everything from gazing balls (10 of them) to trellises to a fish pond stocked with goldfish. Many hours were spent caring for the yard. Rose and Richard enjoyed checking out garage sales and flea

markets, where Rose indulged her passion for collecting. She specialized in dolls, figurines of old men, cuckoo clocks, and brooches. For the funeral service, the family brought along Rose's box of pins, and they encouraged all the ladies to wear one home in honor of Rose.

Rose loved traveling, making several trips to Washington for her granddaughters' graduations. There was one memorable trip to England and a number of Schloss family reunions. Richard and Rose went out to lunch every single day, which allowed them to try many different cuisines. They were never afraid to try something new, but her favorites were homemade cherry kolaches and oatmeal raisin cookies. She would never drink anything cold, always preferring room temperature. Rose treasured her dogs--Rusty, Oly, and Snoopy--although it was always painful when they reached the end of their time.

Rose had a wonderful sense of humor, which never faltered even during her tough times. She and Richard were well matched in that respect; there was always laughter when they were around. Richard and Rose were married in January 2013, after 30 years of loving companionship. Together, they were active in Buffalo United Methodist Church, and attended many community activities. After Richard died, Rose was determined to live out her life independently--though she did have loving support from a neighbor, Mike Sheets, and her family.

Rose had many major health crises through the years, including three bouts with cancer. As a result of lingering damage from chemotherapy, she required periodic transfusions. In consultation with her family, Rose made the decision to go with hospice a little over a week prior to her passing, and she was able to remain at home with care from Terry and Dennis and their wives. They provided loving and tender care for her during this time, cherishing the opportunity to care for her as she had cared for them.

*[This is a condensed version of the eulogy read by Pastor Kathryn at Rose's funeral service on Saturday, March 17.]*

# April 2018

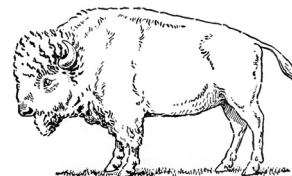
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter 7:00 am: Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast 8:45 am: Worship	2 3:00 pm: Alexander Technique	3	4	5	6	7 7:00 - 11:00 Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale
8 8:45 am: Worship Service	9 9:00 am: Clean Church 3:00 pm: Alexander Technique	10	11	12 11:30 am: Golden Age Potluck and Bingo!	13	14 11:30 am: Annual Spring Fling
15 8:45 am: Worship Service	16 3:00 pm: Alexander Technique	17	18 4:00 pm: Admin Board Meeting	19 9:30 am: UMW	20 8:00 am: Popcorn at Garfield	21
22 Earth Day 8:45 am: Worship Service	23 3:00 pm: Alexander Technique	24 Deadline for submitting May Newsletter Items	25	26 9:30 am: NOOMA Bible Study	27	28
29 8:45 am: Worship Service	30 3:00 pm: Alexander Technique	"May we be wise in using the gifts God has given us, love recklessly, forgive extravagantly, and serve with abandon. Most of all, may we share the faith that is in us, so that, one day, everyone will know that no matter who they are or where they come from or what their history is, they are loved." ~Bishop Haller				

## April Birthdays

- 1 Bob Fish
- 3 Verna Cartano
- 12 Andrea Kelley
- 16 Joyce Hartmann
- 25 Nancy Seufferlein
- 25 Dani Lacy

## April Anniversaries

- 6 Don & Becky Durand
- 23 Fred & Marlene Himes



## Buffalo UMC April Calendar

April 7 (7 to 11 am): Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale

April 9 (9:00 am): Clean Church

April 12 (11:30 am): Golden Age Pot Luck w/Bingo

April 14 (11:30 am): Annual Spring Fling

April 18 (4:00 pm): Administrative Board Meeting

April 19 (9:30 am): United Methodist Women

April 20 (8:00 am): Popping Corn at Garfield  
Elementary

April 26 (9:00 am): NOOMA Bible Study

## Bertram UMC April Calendar

April 3 (11:30 am): Preparing and serving lunch at  
Mission of Hope

April 28 (5 to 7:00 pm): Spring Supper, Bertram  
Township Hall



- Thanks to Tom Ferguson for adding another lock to a door for backpack food storage. Tom also reinforced the rickety wood ladder and cleaned the Bunn Coffee Maker.
- Thanks to everyone who provided food for Rose Schloss' funeral and sent cards, helped serve the luncheon, or offered a prayer. The family was most appreciative.

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